

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Survey No. B-5000

1. Name

Historic 118 - 124 South Carlton Street
and / common

2. Location

street & number 118 - 124 South Carlton Street
city, town Baltimore
state & zip code Maryland 21205 county

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name
street & number telephone
city, town state & zip code

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore City Land Records liber
street & number Clarence Mitchell Courthouse folio
city, town Baltimore State Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title
date federal state county local
depository for survey records
city, town state & zip code

7. Description

Condition

☐ excellent
☐ good
☒ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check One

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check One

☒ original site
☐ moved:
date of move: _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

This group of four two-bay-wide, two-story brick houses is composed of a central pair with low-pitched gable roofs typical of the small alley houses built in Baltimore in the 1850s and 1860s, flanked by two slightly taller houses with shed roofs, probably built in the 1870s. All of the houses retain their original brick facades, which were always painted.

The houses are two stories in height, 13' wide, and occupy lots 64'6" deep. Each two-room deep house has a one-story brick rear kitchen addition somewhat narrower than the house. At 120 – 122 the pitch of the gable roof is especially low, a characteristic of this particular type of two-story, gable-roofed alley house. The houses are constructed in common bond. 120 – 122 have a simple brick corbelled cornice, 118 and 124 have a simple wooden cornice consisting of a crown molding set over a plain wooden frieze. Chimneys are located at the rear corner of the house.

Door and window openings have splayed brick lintels, except for the first floor openings of 122 S. Carlton St., which have segmentally arched brick lintels, composed of a double row of headers. The sills are wood and have been covered with sheet metal. The windows are filled with a mix of replacement sash--1/1 sash, 6/6, and others. No original doors survive and the row shows a mix of replacement door styles, all surmounted by a single light transom, most of which have been covered over. The houses sit on low basements, the entrances being reached by one or two concrete steps. A flat-linteled sallyport runs back along the south side of 118 and the north side of 124.

The houses are basically two rooms deep, with the front room being entered directly from the front door. The front and back rooms of the first floor are separated by a wide opening, with the tightly winding, narrow stairs set in the rear room, in the space between the partition wall and the fireplace. The one-story rear addition served as the kitchen, with its own cooking fireplace.

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Survey No. B-5000

8. Significance

Period	Area of significance	check one & justify			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theatre	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other: specify	

Specific dates c. 1850 – 1860; c. 1870

Builder/Architect

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

This group of houses is significant as representing a very plain type of small street house that was constructed to provide inexpensive housing for the working class residents of the area, most of whom were German or Irish at the time of construction. The houses were built according to a pattern that was quite common to the city's working class neighborhoods of the middle and late nineteenth century. Recognizing that workers held different levels of jobs (and pay), builders created a hierarchy of house sizes (and prices) in the new neighborhoods going up to serve the expanding factory districts ringing the harbor and north-east and southwest of the central city. Builders acquired anywhere from an eighth to a half of a city block and built 14' to 15'-wide two-story houses on the main streets, and smaller, 11' to 13'-wide two-story houses on the narrower streets bisecting the blocks. Typically, in this period, main street houses might sell \$1,000 - \$1,500; small street houses for \$600 - \$800.

Builders usually sold their small street houses to Irish or German-American semi-skilled workers and laborers who received mortgages from the wide variety of community and ethnically-sponsored building and loan associations. Occasionally, the builder retained ownership of his small street houses to provide income for himself as rental properties or sold them to other investors. In this way people of varying means could afford to live in the same block. If they couldn't afford the approximately \$750 purchase price of the small street houses, then they *could* afford the \$8 or so a month it would cost to rent one, while they saved to be able to buy their own home later.

The houses are especially significant because of their proximity to the Baltimore & Ohio railroad yards, the nation's first railroad. Housing of this type was built for the first group of B&O workers to settle in southwest Baltimore, many of whom were recent Irish immigrants who attended St. Peter's Roman Catholic church nearby.

The houses in this block gain added significance for being the houses associated with one of the last Arab stables in Baltimore, located just to the west of this row. The stable is always bustling with activity as ponies and their wagons come and go and there are usually people associated with the stable resting on the long

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Survey No. B-5000

9. Major Bibliographic References

Mary Ellen Hayward and Charles Belfoure, *The Baltimore Rowhouse*
(New York: Princeton Architectural Press, 1999)

10. Geographic Data

Acreeage of nominated property

Quadrangle name

Verbal boundary description and justification

11. Form Prepared by

name / title Dr. Mary Ellen Hayward

Organization The Alley House Project

date

street & number 1306 Carrollton Ave.

telephone

city, town Baltimore

state & zip code Maryland 21204

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotate Maryland, Article 41, section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of rights.

Return to:

DHCP/DHCD

Maryland Historical Trust

100 Community Place

Crownsville MD 21032-2023

W. — 8-5000

118-124 S. Carlton St.
BALTO, MD

HOLLIS

HOLLIS ST. MARKET

18

235 BOYD

W. LOMBARD

S. CARROLLTON

S. ARLINGTON

S. SCHROEDER

FOUNDRY

BRIDGE SHOP

SAW MILL

PASS. CAR

BALTIMORE & OHIO RAIL ROAD CO.

BLACKSMITH SHOP

BOILER SHOP

MACHINE SHOP

PAINT SHOP

REPAIR SHOP

COAL YARD



116-114 Carter

125-4

3-5000

118-124 S. Carlton St.

BACRO. 112.

11. 245. 112.

348.

11. 245. 112.

1/1

10-12-43 12:11

POPPLETON HISTORIC STUDY

~~B-2736~~ B-5000

Block

Lot

Address

MAG #0427365464

250

88-93

118-124 S. Carlton Street

Approximate age

1800-1845

1845-1860

1865-1880

1880-1896

1896-on

Rating

Architectural

Condition

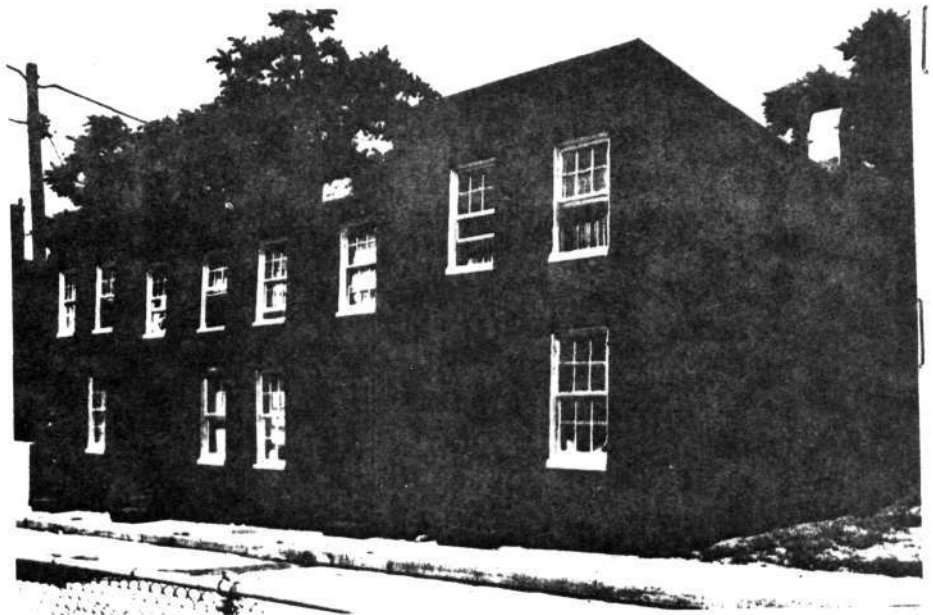
A	Significant-save	good	fair	poor	bad
B	Quality-Indiv./groups-save	good	fair	poor	bad
(C)	Important to street/groups	good	(fair)	(poor)	bad
D	Insignificant/detrimental	good	fair	poor	bad

Notable features:

Alley dwellings of relatively early date. Nice proportions, doors near street level. They warrant review and possible rehabilitation. There are sallyports at 118 and 124.

Environmental context:

Lots at 114-116 are vacant but there are no vacant houses. Quiet, small street and if play lot were redesigned could have nice outlook.



~~B-2736~~

118-124 S. Carlton Street
Block 250 Lots 088-093
Baltimore City
Baltimore West Quad.

